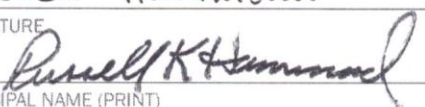
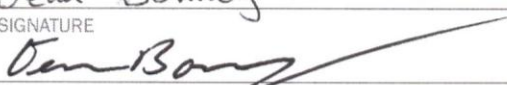
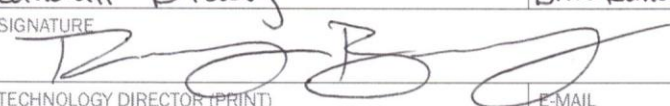



QWEST FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATION COMPETITIVE SUB-GRANT PROPOSAL ASSURANCE SHEET

Project Title: Smart Music Education Amount of Request: \$ 8,466
 Name of Certificated Teacher (or "lead teacher" if more than one): Randall Brady
 Name of School currently teaching at: Snake River High School
 District Name: Snake River School District District Number: 52
 Total number of teachers involved (if more than one): _____
 Approximate number of students impacted: 140 Grade level(s) impacted: 5-12
 Content area(s) impacted: Instrumental Music (Band)

I certify that if I receive a Qwest Foundation for Education Grant -

- I agree to create a 5-minute video highlighting my project for the purposes of sharing best practices with other Idaho K-12 teachers.
- I agree to do one presentation on my project to other Idaho K-12 teachers before October 31, 2012.
- I agree to submit an electronic report to the Idaho State Department of Education before October 31, 2012.

SUPERINTENDENT NAME (PRINT) <u>Russell Hammond</u>	E-MAIL <u>Russell@sd52.k12.id.us</u>	TELEPHONE <u>208-684-3001</u>
SIGNATURE 		
PRINCIPAL NAME (PRINT) <u>Dean Bonney</u>	E-MAIL <u>Dean@sd52.k12.id.us</u>	TELEPHONE <u>208-684-3061</u>
SIGNATURE 		
TEACHER OR LEAD TEACHER NAME (PRINT) <u>Randall Brady</u>	E-MAIL <u>BradRand@sd52.k12.id.us</u>	TELEPHONE <u>208-684-3061</u>
SIGNATURE 		
TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR (PRINT) <u>Steve Schellenberg</u>	E-MAIL <u>schestev@sd52.k12.id.us</u>	TELEPHONE <u>208-684-3061</u>
SIGNATURE 		

Submit one digital copy of your proposal (PDF format) by Thursday, November 10, 2011 (by 5 pm MST) via e-mail to:

Jimmy Takata
jtakata@sde.idaho.gov
208.332.6937

Proposals submitted after that date and time will not be considered.

***Only one PDF file per teacher applicant will be accepted (this includes the Assurance Sheet).**
 Faxes will not be accepted.

Qwest Foundation for Education
Sub Grant Proposal
Abstract

Currently the Snake River School District has only one teacher to teach a band program that involves students in grades 5 through 12. Originally the program was set up to accommodate a limited number of students in a 6-12 category in only four classes. There are now 140 students in grades 5-12 participating in eight classes. The participation in band has jumped from 36 to 140 since the 2008-2009 school year. Adding more assessment and audio/visual instructional technology to the program will facilitate the continued growth of the program.

There are many problems that arise when a single teacher is teaching a band program that expands the entire length of 5th grade through high school. One of the biggest problems is that they simply don't have enough time in the day to get everything done. Class time is spent teaching rhythm, music theory, music history, fundamental to advanced instrument techniques and proper performance practices. If a teacher is to survive and keep up a high quality program there needs to be things in place to help facilitate learning.

Over the past decade there have been great advances in music assessment technology. At the head of this is SmartMusic, which provides music educators with tools to make assessment easier. With SmartMusic individual students can step out of class to take playing tests while the rest of the group continues with regular rehearsal. This makes assessment much more effective because entire class periods do not have to be devoted to testing. SmartMusic software records the student and submits the recording electronically. It also gives the student a grade based on rhythmic and tonal accuracy, which makes the assessment more accurate.

With other technological resources, the band room can become an all access pass to the world of music. There are countless videos on YouTube that can be used to show certain playing techniques. There are even private lessons posted that can aid individuals or sections in furthering their musicality. By putting a projector and computer in the classroom, students can have the opportunity to see for themselves how they can apply musical concepts to their own playing. Drill design software such as Pyware would not only save the band program money because we could write our own show, but it would also illustrate exactly what our marching show is supposed to look like before we put it to work on the field.

Overall, putting audio/visual aids into the music classroom will help to improve the students learning by providing means to visualize the concepts being taught. Music is all about understanding musical styles, making a style work in a solo or ensemble, and then adding the uniqueness of the group or individual to make it their own.

Current Innovation

The Snake River Bands currently use a program called Charms. This program allows the teacher to organize events between students and parents. Each student has an account on the program that allows them to update personal contact information as is convenient for them. It is a web based program where each student has a login and password. Monthly (and sometimes weekly), reminders are sent to the students and parents about upcoming events or assignments. It is a great resource to keep parents informed without having to send home a note or flier with a student. Charms also makes it possible for students to receive assignments electronically. Another feature of the program is that it allows for the director to electronically file music and keep an instrument inventory.

Current assessment techniques consist mostly of in class playing tests. However, the school district recently purchased a small video/audio recorder so that the band can record concerts. This video recorder has already proven very valuable because it has allowed the band to review concerts and other community performances with a fairly high quality sound. Such recordings are invaluable because it allows the students the opportunity to analyze performances and make discoveries about their playing.

In the more advanced performance groups, assignments to view YouTube videos of professional groups are given frequently. Currently we don't have the means to do these projects effectively in class; but, there are many valuable resources that can be accessed by the students at home. As an example, jazz band students can go home and look up a piece by Count Basie that they are playing in class so that they can hear the style as it was played originally by the Count Basie big band. This resource has greatly facilitated the teaching of style in the jazz idiom.

Current assessment is done in class on designated days of each week. Students are given the opportunity to perform a prepared scale technique or section from the concert literature in front of their peers. Although this is time consuming, it provides a valuable venue for students to learn to cope with performance anxiety. Starting in the 5th grade beginning band, each student has to perform these weekly (sometimes bi-weekly) tests for the whole class. By the time the students make it to high school, many of them have defeated their fear of performing.

With the addition of more audio/visual technology, all of these current innovations can be greatly enhanced. Ultimately they all become more effectively used because they will be available to every band student in the district.

Project Narrative

Project Description-The purpose of this project is to provide technology resources that will be portable so that they may be used throughout the entire Snake River band program. The current program consists of band classes in grades 5 through 12 with one band teacher. Equipment that will be purchased for the program consists of one portable projector with the necessary adapters and extra bulbs, 2 MacBook Pro's, 1 iPad tablet, SmartMusic Studio software and annual subscription, Roland Rhythm Coaches, and Pyware marching drill design software.

All of the technology in this project will serve multiple purposes. The projector and computers will provide a medium for viewing concert videos, YouTube lessons, and online music resources for music history and theory such as Groves Music Online and musictheory.net. The purpose of such videos and resources is to familiarize band students with music history and current music trends.

The SmartMusic Studio is a music assessment program that will speed up the testing process and give more accurate feedback on pitch and rhythmic accuracy. SmartMusic is designed to sync recorded audio with notes in the music so as to provide students with visual feedback on what notes or rhythms they missed. Receiving visual feedback on the music will give students concrete ideas of where they need improvement. SmartMusic will be used on the computer and the iPad tablet to assess individual student growth. It can also be used with the projector to assess full band arrangements in the beginning band classes.

The Roland Rhythm coach is an electronic practice pad designed for teaching percussion students. Students that are developing proper percussion techniques can use the rhythm coach to judge accuracy. The practice pad has settings for various rhythms and can assess playing accuracy through the sensors in the practice pad. This can also be used in conjunction with the Boss Dr. Beat metronome to incorporate beats from various styles of music.

Pyware drill design software is a program for designing marching band shows. This software would be invaluable to Snake River for various reasons. First, we simply can't afford to be purchasing prewritten marching shows because the cost is in excess of \$400 per year. Drill design can be done by the director each year in order to save money on expensive drill design. Second, it will provide a way for the students participating in marching band to see an automated example of what the show looks like before they attempt to do it themselves. Being able to see the show will make rehearsal time so much more productive because the students will have a better idea of the overall result that they are supposed to be producing. With the iPad capabilities, I can film what happens in rehearsal and immediately play it back to any student. Along with the playback, I can show the student exactly where each formation occurs in conjunction with the music through the use of a music pdf reader app.

Project Team Members-Project team members include myself, Randall Brady, and various volunteers that help with the band program throughout the year. Current volunteers that would be working on the project are Paul Page, our marching band visual coordinator, and

Kamari Hale, a former student that assists with percussion instruction. Our district technical supervisor Steve Schellenberg will be available to assist with setting up the computers with the district web services.

Feasibility-The Snake River band program is set up very well for the technology that is being requested. I personally have worked extensively with each piece of equipment being requested with exception of the Roland Rhythm Coach. Once the equipment is purchased it will be easily incorporated into the program. There are also at least two practice rooms available in each band room for use of the SmartMusic program so that testing can take place at the same time as regular class time rehearsal.

Sustainability-The band program at Snake River has experienced dramatic changes over the past two years that have laid the foundation for a stability in the program that is unmatched in its history. Student participation has increased from 36 to 140 over the past two years. The technology requested would not only be used for many years, but will actually provide the means to make the program even more stable. The technology will help improve the quality of education which will in turn further stabilize interest in the program.

School District Support-The Snake River school district has played an invaluable role in the success of the band program over the past two years. They have provided us with the means to create more opportunities for the students in band. Because of their support we have been able to start a percussion ensemble, jazz band, and marching band. The administration has also provided a number of professional development opportunities for me including training at the Midwest Clinic in Chicago, IL in 2009. They have supported me and this program 100 percent since I took the job in 2009.

Anticipated Outcome/Impact-This project is meant to be a continuous effort. Every piece of technology that is requested can be implemented within the first few days that it arrives. Improving student assessment is the goal. If I can give the students concrete evidence of what has been done well and what can be improved, then they can further progress by working on the areas that have shown weakness. Also, being able to show students firsthand what the music should sound like, how the marching show should look, or how other musicians go about a certain fingering technique will give them a better idea of how to incorporate those skills in their own playing. No “how to” book can substitute for actually being able to see how something works.

Project Scope and Sequence

The technology that would be purchased for this grant will be part of an ongoing effort to improve the music education in the Snake River band program. The technology implemented will help with aligning the curriculum with state standards. The following is how the technology will be set up to start this project.

January 2012-Bids will be requested upon confirmation of funding. This will happen within the first week or two.

January 2012-All items will be ordered

February 2012-Testing schedule will be modified to better accommodate individual testing with SmartMusic.

February 2012-Computers and iPad will be set up with SmartMusic software and students will be set up with individual accounts and begin testing.

February 2012-Roland Rhythm Coaches begin to be used in 5th and 6th grade classes.

February 2012-Projector can begin to be used to review concert and rehearsal videos for analysis. YouTube lessons can actively be used in class for large group viewing.

April-July 2012-Pyware drill design software can begin being used to design 2012 marching band show.

June 2012-iPad and Pyware begin to be used in the spring band camp to show basics of music and movement.

August 2012-iPad and Pyware can be used extensively to demonstrate drill design and movement for the marching show. iPad will be used on football field rehearsals to give student immediate feedback on performance.

Idaho State Music Standards-The following are state standards that would be directly affected by the requested technology:

Goal 1.1-Discuss historical and cultural contexts of music

Goal 1.2-Discuss the interrelationships among visual and performing arts disciplines.

Goal 2.1-Conduct analyses in music.

Goal 2.2 Formulate and express opinions about musical performances

Goal 3.2 Communicate through music, applying artistic concepts, knowledge, and skills.

Budget Narrative

The project as a whole is designed to use technology to teach students through evaluating performance. Below is a breakdown of the equipment that is being requested.

Portable Classroom Projector—A projector will be used to show video lessons in a large group setting. Most band classes are 35 or more students so a projector will allow all students in the class to view videos at the same time.

Replacement Projector Bulbs—Having an extra couple of bulbs will sustain the use of the projector for a longer period of time before needing further maintenance.

iPad 2 64gig—The iPad will be used to analyze student performance on the marching field and in a one on one setting. This analysis can be done by using sheet music pdf apps, metronome apps, tuner apps, etc. The video capturing capabilities will be useful in immediately playing back student performance.

AppleCare Protection—I feel it would be wise for the sustainability of the project to purchase a protection plan for the MacBooks and iPad. Use of all equipment is under supervision of the teacher but accidents do happen.

iPad Case—The case will simply serve as another means of protecting the iPad. This device will be used frequently in various venues; both indoor and out.

VGA Adaptors—The MacBooks and iPad will be the primary devices used with the classroom projector. The VGA adaptors connect the computers with the classroom projector.

Pyware 3D Software—This drill design software will provide a way for the band program to both save money and also make teaching more effective. Drill can be designed each year by the teacher instead of purchasing expensive pre-designed drill each year. Having this software also makes it possible to show the students a video version of the drill before they are expected to execute it on the field.

Roland Rhythm Coach—The rhythm coaches will be used in teaching percussion students. Electronic sensors in the pad analyze accuracy in rhythms. Fundamental techniques are taught by using the 54 different rhythms that are preprogramed into the rhythm coach.

SmartMusic Subscription—The SmartMusic subscription will include software for three computers and the iPad. SmartMusic is a program that is designed to assess students' progress in music as well as assist them in their progress by providing accompaniments for solo literature as well as full band literature. The program assesses accuracy in pitch and rhythm through the use of a microphone. Three microphones and one foot pedal will be included in the subscription package.

Budget Spreadsheet

Item	Quantity	Unit Price	Total
Portable Classroom Projector	1	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Replacement Bulbs	2	\$200.00	\$400.00
iPad 2 64 gig	1	\$699.00	\$699.00
AppleCare Protection for iPad	1	\$79.00	\$79.00
iPad Case	1	\$40.00	\$40.00
VGA Adapter for iPad	1	\$30.00	\$30.00
Pyware 3D Basic Software	1	\$349.00	\$349.00
Macbook Pro (with remote and VGA Cord)	2	\$1,747.00	\$3,494.00
AppleCare Protection for MacBooks	2	\$249.00	\$498.00
Roland Rhythm Coach (4)	4	\$249.00	\$996.00
SmartMusic Subscription (3 yrs.) -Includes 1 Teacher edition for computer and 1 for iPad -2 Practice Room editions -3 Microphones -1 Foot pedal for music accompaniment	1	881.00	\$881.00
	Grand Total		\$8,466.00